

House Resolution 1168

By: Representatives Carter of the 175th, Black of the 174th, and Shaw of the 176th

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition as Georgia's Official
2 International Festival; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, south Georgia has historically existed as a large geographical region composed
4 of farmlands, woodlands, scattered rural communities, and a number of small towns; and
5

6 WHEREAS, communities were insular, sparse, and disconnected, both from each other and
7 from the rest of the world; and

8 WHEREAS, many children in these communities grow up with limited horizons and few
9 connections beyond their own small areas; and

10 WHEREAS, geographic and historic isolation should not continue to be barriers to the
11 communities and schools in exploring, appreciating, and feeling a real connection to the big,
12 wide world that is outside their boundaries; and

13 WHEREAS, the students and community members of south Georgia deserve the same
14 opportunities and access to knowledge and activities as those who live in large metropolitan
15 areas; and

16 WHEREAS, interactive programs informing and inspiring students to think about the stories
17 that are important to the world are common in large cities, but rare outside of urban areas;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, developing such programs and opportunities have become the driving force and
20 goal of activities of the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition; and

1 WHEREAS, this distinctive and meaningful folk fair promotes lively exchange, provides
2 richly diverse entertainment, and enriches the social studies curriculum of the local schools
3 under one umbrella in the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
5 the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition is designated as Georgia's Official
6 International Festival.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.